of temporarily lowering of diversion tunnel gates for testing.

(c) There was a complaint by Pakistan though there was no violation of the Indus Waters Treaty 1960 by India.

(d) and (e) Since the tunnel was not plugged the question of seeking advice from the Central Government and of claiming of damages by Pakistan does not arise.

Greater Aizwal Water Supply Scheme

576. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 91 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th February, 1986 and state:

(a) what is the progress made so far in the Greater Aizwal Water Supply Scheme;

(b) what is the amount spent so far on the Scheme during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) what is the amount earmarked for the year 1986-87;

(d) whether the Scheme has been completed as envisaged;

(e> if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(f) what steps Government have takea to complete the scheme at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SlNGH)- (a) As per the information furnished by the Public Health Engineering Department of the Union Territory Administration of Mizoram, about 77 per cent of the work has been completed in the Greater Aizwal Water Supply Scheme upto 31-5-86.

(b) A sum of Rs. 8,02,85,196.00 has been spent for this scheme till 31-5-86 as reported by the Public Health Engineering Department of the Union Territory Administration of Mizoram. Year-wise expenditure for the Scheme i_s yet to be furnished by them.

(c) A sum of Rs. 350 lakhs has been provided for financial year 86-87 as per information received from the PHE Department of the Mizoram Administration .

(d) No.

(e) The reasons for delay are said to be early rain, non-completion of certain civil works, non-availability of sufficient funds, difficulties faced in getting GI pipes, cement and revision of the project scope and cost estimates.

(f) The Mizoram Administration had been requested time and again to ensure that the revised target date of 30th June, 1986 for completion is adhered to and to streamline the procedure for award of works of important projects, prescribe appropriate control mechanial, keep a close watch on the implemention by regular monitoring and send monthly reports to Government.

Water supply schemes fo_r villages in M.P.

577. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the water supply schemes for villages in States are financed by the Central Government under the centrally sponsored programme;

(b) whether it is a fact that in Madhya Pradesh the villages having more than 5000 population are notified as urban areas and are thus de-

nied the benefit of such financial assistance for water supply schemes under the centrally sponsored programme while villages having 29,000 population in Kerala are getting this benefit;

(c) if so, the reasons for which smaller towns of Madhya Pradesh which are poor are not given financial assistance for water supply schemes under the programme; and

(d) whether Government propose to give financial assistance to such villages, if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) Water supply is a State subject included in the state sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Government supplements the resources of the States by providing funds under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP).

(b) to (d) Habitats which are notified as urban areas are outside the rural areas. Central assistance under ARP is restricted to the provision of drinking water in rural areas only and what has been declared by the State Government to be an area other than a rural area, cannot be covered under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme.

Subsidy on wheat seeds to Bihar and Madhya Pradesh

578. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI- Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agriculture Price Commission had recommended a subsidy of upto Rs. 150/- on the wheat seed in Madhya Pradesh and Bihar in view of the increased cost of production of high yielding varieties of wheat;

(b) whether the said subsidy as recommended by the Agriculture Price Commission is being given; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and whether Government propose to provide subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices in its report of 1984-85 had recommended a subsidy of Rs. 150/- per quintal on distribution of certified seeds of wheat in Madhya Pradesh and Bihar. In pursuance of these recommendations of the Commission the Government of Madhya Pradesh requested the Government of India to consider the question of giving subsidy on the distribution of certified wheat seeds in Madhya Pradesh. No such request was received from the Government of Bihar. A detailed examination of the proposal revealed that it was not the cost of wheat subsidy alone which was keeping the productivity of wheat at a lower level but there are the other factors like use of Chemical fertiliser, pesticides and other agronomical practices which affect the productivity of wheat considerably. It was, therefore, considered necessary that providing subsidy to wheat seed alone may not result in increasing productivity of wheat. It was also considered that the entire question of increasing productivity of wheat could be better tackled through an 'Intensive Area Wheat Development Programme'. Madhya Pradesh Government was accordingly, requested to formulate such a programme to achieve the desired objective. The Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices have again reiterated their earlier recommendations made in the report for 1984-85, in their report for 1985-P6.